PATENT NO.

: 7,377,261 B2

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DATED

APPLICATION NO.: 10/568184 : May 27, 2008

INVENTOR(S)

: Y. Sukegawa et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

IN THE CLAIMS

Column 33, line 28, through column 34, line 49, the claims should read:

29. A combustion control method according to claim 28, further of a spark ignition engine, comprising the steps of:

generating turbulence in an exhaust flow in an exhaust passage;

injecting fuel directly into a combustion chamber; and

injecting fuel in an expansion stroke in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined temperature.

-setting a time interval between a latest fuel injection initiation timing and an ignition initiation timing to 9 ms or more.

30. A combustion control method according to claim 26, further of a spark ignition engine, comprising the steps of:

causing penetration of injected fuel spray in a direction of an ignition plug longer than that in a direction of a piston;

in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined temperature, injecting fuel in a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratio is in a vicinity of a theoretical air-fuel ratio; and

causing ignition timing to occur immediately before a compression stroke top dead center or later.

injecting fuel into an intake port;

and in the ease where the temperature of the engine is lower than the -predetermined temperature, injecting fuel in an intake stroke.

31. A combustion control method of a spark ignition engine, comprising the steps of: in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined temperature, generating a forward longitudinal vortex in a combustion chamber;

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IN THE CLAIMS

injecting fuel in a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratio is in a vicinity of a theoretical air-fuel ratio; and

causing ignition timing to occur immediately before a compression stroke top dead center or later.

generating turbulence in an exhaust flow in an exhaust passage;

injecting fuel directly into a combustion chamber; and

-injecting-fuel in an expansion stroke in the ease where a temperature of theengine is lower than a predetermined temperature.

- 32. A combustion control method of a spark ignition engine, comprising the steps of: causing penetration of injected fuel spray in a direction of an ignition plug longer than that in a direction of a piston;
 - in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined temperature, generating a forward longitudinal vortex in a combustion chamber;
 - injectings fuel in a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratio is in a vicinity of a theoretical air-fuel ratio; and
 - causing ignition timing to occur immediately before a compression stroke top dead center or later.
- 33. A combustion control method of a spark ignition engineaccording to Claim 31, comprising the steps of:

regulating the strength of a forward longitudinal vortex generated in a combustion chamber so that a magnitude of a fluctuation of engine speed or torque fluctuation is a predetermined value or less; and

delaying ignition timing to an extent possible.

-in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined--temperature, generating a forward longitudinal vortex in a combustion chamber; -injecting fuel in a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratio is in a vicinity of a theoretical air-fuel ratio; and

causing ignition timing to occur immediately before a compression stroke top--dead-center-or-later.

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IN THE CLAIMS

34. A combustion control method according to claim 33 of a spark ignition engine, comprising the steps of:

> in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined temperature, injecting fuel in a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratio is in a vicinity of a theoretical air-fuel ratio;

regulating an injection pressure of fuel so that a magnitude of a fluctuation of engine speed or torque fluctuation is a predetermined value or less; and delaying ignition timing to an extent possible.

-regulating the strength of a forward longitudinal vortex generated in a combustion chamber so that a magnitude of a fluctuation of engine speed or torque fluctuation is a predetermined value or less; and

delaying ignition timing to an extent possible.

35. A combustion control method of a spark ignition engineaccording to Claim 28, further comprising the steps of:

setting a time interval between a latest fuel injection initiation timing and an ignition initiation timing to 9 ms or more.

causing penetration of injected fuel spray in a direction of an ignition plug longer than that in the direction of a piston;

in the case where a temperature of the engine is lower than a predetermined temperature, generating a forward longitudinal vortex in a combustion chamber;

injecting fuel in a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratiois in a vicinity of a theoretical air-fuel ratio; and

causing ignition timing to occur immediately before or later than a compression stroke top dead center.

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IN THE CLAIMS

36. A combustion control method of a spark ignition engine, according to Claim 26, <u>further</u> comprising the steps of:

injecting fuel into an intake port; and

in the case where the temperature of the engine is lower than the predetermined temperature, injecting fuel in an intake stroke.

-a second half of a compression stroke so that an air-fuel ratio is in a vicinity of atheoretical air-fuel ratio;

regulating an injection pressure of fuel so that a magnitude of a fluctuation of engine speed or torque fluctuation is a predetermined value or less; and -delaying ignition timing to an extent possible.

Signed and Sealed this

Second Day of September, 2008

JON W. DUDAS Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office